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Jury Selection for the Rewald Trial May Be Completed Today

By Charles Memminger
Star-Bulletin Writer

Jury selection was expected to continue today in the federal fraud trial of investment counselor Ronald R. Rewald.

U.S. Judge Harold Fong and attorneys attempted yesterday to whittle down to 40 a pool of 150 prospective jurors. A panel of 12 jurors and six alternates will then be selected from the group of 40.

Court personnel said the jury could be chosen by this afternoon but opening statements were not expected to begin until tomorrow.

The jury candidates were asked if the length of the trial, which is expected to take up to three months, would cause them undo hardship. They also were asked:

✓ If publicity about the Rewald case would affect their ability to be fair and impartial jurors.

✓ If the involvement of several federal agencies in the case, including the CIA, Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and the Securi-

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ties and Exchange Commission, would make them unable to fairly consider evidence in the trial.

✓ If they ever were associated with the CIA or any other intelligence-gathering agency.

✓ If they knew any of the potential witnesses, attorneys or

investors involved in the case.

Rewald is expected to use CIA involvement in his company as a defense against charges that he bilked some 400 investors out of \$22 million.

REWALD SAT quietly throughout the time-consuming process and made no comment to reporters when he entered and left the courtroom. His wife, Nancy, watched from the first row of seats.

The government expects to call up to 177 witnesses, many of them people who invested money in Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham & Wong. Defense attorneys expect to call about 70 witnesses.

Rewald is charged with mail and securities fraud, tax evasion and perjury in connection with operation of his company.